

September 4, 2007

Statewide Literacy Campaign Aims for Twelve Hundred Tutors in Twelve Weeks

If you've ever wanted to have a life-changing impact on someone in your community, consider becoming a literacy tutor. The literacy programs of Janesville Literacy Council, Stateline Beloit Literacy Council and Blackhawk Technical College have been changing lives in Rock County with each volunteer tutor it trains to help individuals learn to read, write or speak English.

Beginning on September 8, which Governor Doyle declared "Literacy Awareness Day," Wisconsin literacy councils will participate in a statewide "Twelve Hundred Tutors in Twelve Weeks" campaign to join in the effort to meet the rising demand for services among literacy programs in Wisconsin. Last year, under the campaign name of "900 Tutors in 90 Days," the state surpassed its goal by recruiting 923 new volunteer tutors. More are still needed.

Funded by Verizon, this 5th annual tutor training campaign will reimburse members of Wisconsin Literacy, a statewide literacy coalition, based on how many new tutors each member recruits and trains from September 8 through December 1.

Rock County literacy programs are looking for community members who would like to be trained through this campaign to provide goal-oriented instruction to "Basic Skills" and "English as a Second Language" learners who need to improve their reading and writing skills to gain employment or to find a better job.

Janesville Literacy Council, Stateline Beloit Literacy Council and Blackhawk Technical College are non-profit organizations that provide free instruction for adults who wish to improve their reading, writing or speaking skills in English. To find out about their next volunteer tutor training program, call Janesville Literacy Council at 608-756-3125, Stateline Beloit Literacy Council at 608-362-5207 or Blackhawk Technical College at 608-757-7655

Wisconsin Literacy is a statewide coalition that helps support 52 adult literacy providers. Its mission is to strengthen Wisconsin's workforce, families and communities through literacy. To find out about literacy programs throughout the state, visit www.wisconsinliteracy.org.